

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
Serial No. 09/343,758

YOR9-1999-0183

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 5, 7 – 21 and 23 – 25 remain in the application and stand finally rejected. Claims 6 and 22 are previously canceled. Amendments to Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 17 – 19, and 23 – 25 are offered herein. New claims 26 – 32 are offered herein. No new matter is added.

Amendments to the claims are supported by the claims as filed and are intended to better describe the present invention. In particular, amendments to claims 17 and 18 bring those previously amended claims in line with their original meaning while keeping them in line with the Examiner's previously requested changes. Proposed new claims 26 – 32 are supported by the written description in general, e.g., page 9, lines 9 – 22. No new matter is added.

Essentially repeating the prior rejection, the Examiner finally rejected claims 1 – 5, 7 – 21 and 23 – 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Netscape Navigator 3.0 to James. The final rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claims 1, 14, 19, 24, and 25, the Examiner repeats the assertion that James teaches a method of transferring data across a computer network which comprise setting data transfer constraints (Auto Load Images, Figure 8-15), requesting transfer of data (including image and sound data (page 357) stored on a remote computer system (inherent, page 360), storing a plurality of generic objects (placeholders), each stored generic object corresponding to an original object in data requested (placeholder for each image), identifying at least one object (image) included in said requested data as being associated with a generic object (placeholder, Fig. 8-16) and substituting the generic object for each of said at least one object (page 361, line 3) responsive to said data transfer constraints (page 359, last paragraph), outputting said requested data including said generic objects (Fig. 8-16) or corresponding original objects (page 361, Fig. 8-16).

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As previously noted, James is a usage guide to an old version of the well known Netscape Navigator. The portion of James upon which the final rejection is based is the chapter entitled "Graphics, Sound & Video" and in particular, how to "bypass graphics altogether." See, page 359, line 24. Figure 8 – 16 of James shows a single generic Netscape icon (i.e., a placeholder) that is substituted for images, the same Netscape icon is substituted for every image, regardless of the image content. There is nothing in James to indicate or suggest anything other than the same placeholder icon, contained within Netscape Navigator, is being substituted for each image rather than displaying the image being. Further, James states that "(w)hen this option is turned off, a small icon appears as a placeholder wherever an image is supposed to display." *Id.*, lines 27 – 29. Clearly, the James placeholder icon is resident in Netscape Navigator and not being supplied independently. Thus, James teaches the same Netscape resident placeholder being displayed for all of the images and, the result conveying nothing more than that some image may be displayed in the placeholder location.

The application describes a way to make web browsing more pleasing and reduce network traffic. Creators of web page content may specify generic codes for objects, e.g., the code for a generic image of a dog. When the image of a specific dog is requested, the generic codes are sent instead to be displayed on a web page. The client's web browser system then uses the generic code to determine that the generic image of the dog, stored locally in the user's database of generic images, should be displayed. Since it is stored locally, the generic dog image may be quickly displayed instead of the actual dog. Optionally, the web page provider may send the image of the actual dog after or while the generic dog is being displayed. Thus, at least initially, the user sees the generic dog. The user is presented with a web page that generally represents the full page, e.g., a barnyard may be populated with a herd of the same cows, a flock of the same goose, a team of the same mule, a four member family of the same man and woman and etc. Accordingly, the user has a pleasant web viewing experience even as the data is being transferred. Generic codes may be used for other information types, such as audio, music, and animations.

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So, for example, as originally filed and unamended claim 14 recites, the present invention includes "storing a plurality of generic objects, each stored generic object corresponding to an original object in data requested from said remote computer system" at lines 5 - 6. Clearly, this is more than a single placeholder to be substituted for all objects. Further, claim 19 affirmatively recites "substituting each stored said generic objects for said corresponding object" at lines 7 - 8. Again, quite different than substituting a single local placeholder for every object. Nowhere does James teach "outputting said requested data, said output data selectively including said generic objects or corresponding original objects responsive to said data transfer constraints" at lines 9 - 11. With Netscape containing placeholders there is no reason to transfer them with the data. Therefore, James does not teach the present invention, especially as recited in claims 14 - 16. Similarly, each of independent claims 1 (lines 9 - 10), 17 (lines 7 - 9), 18 (lines 4 - 5), 19 (lines 11 - 12), 24 (lines 9 - 15) and 25 (lines 11 - 17) include such recitations. Neither does James teach the present invention as recited in any other of finally rejected claims 1 - 5, 7 - 13, 17 - 21 and 23 - 25 as originally filed or as amended by the proposed amendment or in any of new claims 26 - 32. Since James does not teach the invention, James does not make the present invention unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 - 5, 7 - 21 and 23 - 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as amended over James is respectfully solicited.

The applicants thank the Examiner for efforts in examining the application, both past and present. Believing the Application in condition for allowance, both for the amendment to the claims and for the reasons set forth above, the applicants request that the Examiner enter the proposed amendment to the claims, reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1 - 5, 7 - 21 and 23 - 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), consider new claims 15 - 32 and allow the Application to issue.

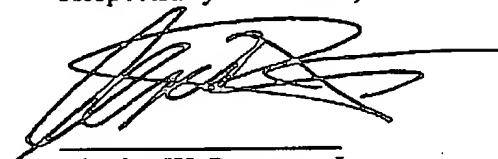
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Should the Examiner believe anything further may be required, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below for a telephonic or personal interview to discuss any other changes.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 50-0510 and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully Submitted,



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September 12, 2003
(Date)

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